



INFECTIOUS DISEASES (BACTERIAL, FUNGAL, VIRAL, PARASITIC, INFESTATIONS)

## MULTIBACILLARY LEPROSY REVEALED BY A REVERSE REACTION IN A POST PARTUM WOMAN.

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**Introduction:** Leprosy is an endemic infectious disease caused by *Mycobacterium leprae*, also known as Hansen's bacillus. Leprosy reaction states are acute or subacute complications of immunological origin that may occur spontaneously or under treatment. Although multidrug therapy is widely recognized as a provider of reactions, we report a case that occurred without treatment following childbirth.

**Clinical case:** This was a 35-year-old woman with no pathological history who consulted for inflammatory macules that had been evolving for about a year, at the beginning of a pregnancy. Dermatological examination revealed hypoesthetic hypo chromic hypoesthetic papules, a drop in the tails of the eyebrows and bilateral congestive rhinorrhea. The neurological examination revealed a bilateral hypertrophy of the cubital nerves and the right external popliteal sciatic nerve, bilateral hypoesthesia of the fingers which were corroded and distal anesthesia in the sock of both feet and glove with both hands. The hypothesis of a type 1 reverse leprosy reaction was issued. C-reactive protein positive, Bacilloscopy revealed acid-fast bacilli. And the anatomoclinical examination concluded to a reactional leprosy. The evolution was favorable with a corticotherapy, and a multi-chemotherapy of 12 months.

**CONCLUSION:** Post partum is a period of renewed immunity, capable of triggering a reverse leprosy reaction similar to a patient undergoing treatment.

**Keywords:** leprosy, reverse reaction, pregnancy, postpartum polychemotherapy.

